

House File 883 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 883

BY GAINES

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for climate impact statements to be attached
2 to bills.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 2.57 Climate impact statements.

2 1. Prior to debate on the floor of a chamber of the general
3 assembly, a climate impact statement shall be attached to any
4 bill, joint resolution, or amendment that proposes a change
5 in the law that can reasonably be interpreted to impact the
6 natural environment including through a change in regulations,
7 cost allocations, or behaviors in the general public. The
8 statement shall include information concerning the impact of
9 the legislation on the state's natural resources, agricultural
10 resources, minority populations, and economic well-being. The
11 statement shall be factual and shall, if possible, provide
12 a reasonable estimate of both the immediate effect and the
13 long-range impact on climate change and environmental health.

14 2. The legislative services agency shall cause to be
15 prepared a climate impact statement within a reasonable time
16 after receiving a request or determining that a proposal
17 is subject to this section. All climate impact statements
18 approved by the legislative services agency shall be
19 transmitted immediately to either the chief clerk of the house
20 or the secretary of the senate, after notifying the sponsor
21 of the legislation that the statement has been prepared for
22 publication. The chief clerk of the house or the secretary
23 of the senate shall attach the statement to the bill, joint
24 resolution, or amendment affected as soon as it is available.

25 3. The legislative services agency may request the
26 cooperation of any state department or agency or political
27 subdivision in preparing a climate impact statement.

28 4. A revised climate impact statement shall be prepared
29 if the climate impact has been changed by the adoption of an
30 amendment, and may be requested by a member of the general
31 assembly or be prepared upon a determination made by the
32 legislative services agency. However, a request for a revised
33 climate impact statement shall not delay action on the bill,
34 joint resolution, or amendment unless so ordered by the
35 presiding officer of the chamber.

1

EXPLANATION

2

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3

4 This bill provides that the legislative services agency
5 shall prepare a climate impact statement, prior to debate, for
6 any bill, joint resolution, or amendment that proposes a change
7 to the law that can reasonably be interpreted to impact the
8 natural environment, including through a change in regulations,
9 cost allocations, or behaviors in the general public. The
10 bill provides that the statement shall include the impact of
11 legislation on the state's natural resources, agricultural
12 resources, minority populations, and economic well-being.
13 A revised climate impact statement shall be prepared if
14 the climate impact has been changed by the adoption of an
15 amendment, and may be requested by a member of the general
16 assembly or be prepared upon a determination made by the
17 legislative services agency. The bill provides that a request
18 for a revised climate impact statement cannot delay legislative
19 action.